

BUCKNER 1

Sketch of
SIMON BOLIVER BUCKNER



From Photographic History of the Civil War

by
Helen Hawes Hudgins

BUCKNER 2

To
Carroll Ginsworth McElligott
from
Helen Hawes Hudson

October 28, 1983

BUCKNER 3

A SKETCH
OF
SIMON BOLIVAR BUCKNER

by
Helen Hawes Hudgins

COPYRIGHT 1983

Published by
FAMILY HISTORY CENTER
Route 11, Temple Road
Franklin, Tennessee 37064

Printed in

U.S.A.

1983

PREFACE

This work is based on the facts given by Dr. A. M. Stickles in his book, Simon Bolivar Buckner, the Borderland Knight, which book is now out of print but their copy was loaned me by the Nashville Library.

The Genealogy in this sketch is from the work done by the Misses Philiberts - Helene and Estelle - of Arlington, Virginia (kinswomen),

and

from The Hawes Family of Caroline County, Virginia," compiled by Elizabeth Hawes Ryland, of Richmond, Virginia (kinswoman), 1947,

and

from my own research and family history.

I sincerely hope you enjoy this little history of a remarkable individual.

Helen Hawes Hudgins
Franklin, Tennessee
July 4, 1981

BUCKNER 5



From Photographic History of the Civil War

205 General Simon B. Buckner.

BUCKNER 6

SIMON BOLIVAR BUCKNER,

the third child and second son of Aylett Hartswell Buckner (1793-1852) and wife, Elizabeth Ann Morehead (1802-1862), was born on April 1, 1823, in the hand-hewn 10 room log home constructed by his father on a 3000-acre tract of virgin land located 7 miles east of Munfordville, in Hart County, Kentucky. It was built in 1819-22. Later Simon B. Buckner named it "Glen Lily" in honor of his daughter Lily. And on this land Aylett Hartswell Buckner established the Henry Clay Iron Furnace.

Aylett Hartswell Buckner was the second son of Philip Buckner (2)(1753-1819) who married Elizabeth Watson. They removed to Hart County, Kentucky from Virginia in 1803.

Philip Buckner (2) was the son of Philip Buckner who died in 1762 and who married Jane Aylett Robinson (this being her second marriage). Jane Aylett Robinson was one of the four daughters of Colonel William Aylett, of "Fairfield" King William County, Virginia, and his wife, Anne Tayloe(r).

Three of their daughters married Buckner boys, the sons of Richard Buckner, who died in 1733, and who had married Elizabeth Cooke. Richard was one of five children of the Emigrant, JOHN BUCKNER who died in 1695. And Richard seems to have been the one most involved in "the affairs of the times" in Virginia.

BUCKNER 7

The remaining Aylett daughter, ANNE, did not marry a Buckner; instead, she married Benjamin Walker, and she was grandmother to my great, great grandfather, RICHARD HAWES. The daughter of Anne Aylett and Benjamin Walker - also named Anne - married SAMUEL HAWES II and Richard was one of their ten children.

I want to state at this point that a long study of the Aylett-Buckner marriages in the third Aylett generation and the Hawes-Buckner marriages in the succeeding generations has led me down a puzzling and exquisite pathway to the past. The children that came along were already "double cousins"; there were "double aunts and double uncles" in every direction. Furthermore, the succeeding generations continued to marry in the same fashion.

Ann Hawes, sister to Richard Hawes, married in 1775, Henry Augustine Washington (b. 1749), a fifth generation direct descendant of John Washington, the Emigrant. Henry was the son of Bailey and Catherine Storke Washington. There were no children of this union since Ann Hawes Washington died in the second year of her marriage.

Three other Hawes women, all sisters to RICHARD HAWES, married into the Buckner family. They were:

Elizabeth (1759-1836) who married Thomas Buckner, Jr. of "Deep Spring" the son of Thomas Buckner, Sr. of "Mt. Pleasant" and "Mill Hill", who had married Judith Thornton (1731-1757), and grandson of Richard Buckner, who married Elizabeth Cooke.

BUCKNER 8

Mary Hawes (1764-1799) who married Robert Buckner, son of Thomas Buckner, Sr., and his second wife, Elizabeth Taliaferro; Charlotte Hawes (1765-1831). Charlotte married first, Richard Henry Buckner (born before 1760), son of George Buckner who married, in 1750, Elizabeth Walker. Then later, Charlotte reached back into the generation of George Buckner (her father-in-law) and married his brother, William Aylett Buckner.

George and William Aylett Buckner were brothers to Richard Buckner (1775-1864) who married Charlotte's daughter by her first marriage - Catherine, called Cathy (1785-1850). George, William Aylett and Richard were the sons of William and Judith Aylett Buckner of "The Neck." William Buckner, Thomas Buckner, Sr., and Philip (1) Buckner were brothers. Their sister, Elizabeth Buckner, married John Washington of Westmoreland, a direct descendant of John Washington of Bridges' Creek. John of Bridges' Creek was the second son of John Washington, Emigrant, and his wife, Anne Pope, brother to Lawrence Washington (b. 1659), grandfather of George Washington.

Elizabeth Hawes Buckner removed to Kentucky "with eleven of her children" after the death of her husband in Virginia. She came to Bourbon County, near Paris, Kentucky in 1808. She died at "Xalapa", in 1836, the home which was built by her son, William Thomas Buckner.

BUCKNER 9

This son had not come with his mother to Kentucky in 1808 because he was married to Mary Monroe Buckner (1791-1817), daughter of William Buckner of "Mill Hill," born 1753 (brother to Thomas Buckner, Jr.) and Elizabeth Monroe, sister to President Monroe. Upon Mary's death, William spent some time with his uncle, Dr. Aylett Hawes in Culpeper, Virginia and then came to Kentucky and on January 21, 1819, married Sarah Clay.

Mary Hawes Buckner and her husband, Robert, came to Kentucky. At Brandenburg, seat of Meade County, there is a one-story frame house known as the Buckner Homestead. Situated on a hillside that commands a view of the Ohio River, it was headquarters for General John Hunt Morgan, being situated to serve as a base for Morgan's operations across the river. This home is open to the public and is included in Kentucky's Tour No. 16. Six sons and two daughters composed the family of Robert and Mary Hawes Buckner.

Elizabeth Hawes Buckner had 12 children; Mary, 8 children; and Philip (2) Buckner had 6 children, so we see the Buckner family line firmly established in the State of Kentucky with the founding of these Buckner homes.

An earlier Philip Buckner had removed to Kentucky before the year 1800. DAR Records, Tenn. Vol. I, says he received a large land grant for services in the Revolutionary War. Born in Caroline Co.,

Virginia on May 13, 1747, he married Tabitha Ann Daniels in 1772 and they were the parents of nine children. William Crozier in "The Buckners of Virginia" says the Emigrant, John Buckner had a brother named Philip. This subject, Philip Buckner, who came to Kentucky, was evidently a son of Philip, brother to the Emigrant. Philip Buckner was in the First Census of Kentucky in 1790. He died in Bracken Co., Kentucky on October 24, 1820.

- - - -

Going to the family of Aylett Hartswell and Elizabeth Ann Morehead Buckner - the father who built Glen Lily - we see that 9 children were born to the mother but only three of them survived, to compose the family of Buckner children. They were:

Turner	(1820-1854)
Emily	died at 6
Simon Bolivar	b. April 1, 1823
Morelos	died young
Caroline Jane	b. 1824; died young
Mary Elizabeth	(1831-1883)
Aylett Hartswell	died young
Aylett Hartswell	died young of scarlet fever
Morelos Aylett	died young of scarlet fever

We assume that the father had an affinity to name his sons for South American Patriots.

BUCKNER II

Aylett Hartswell Buckner and his wife are pictured as good and loving parents who instilled everlasting principles in their children and expected them to be - above all else - honest and sincere and to apply themselves to whatever tasks might be at hand.

The Aylett Hartswell Buckner family moved to a second Kentucky location and later removed to Arkansas, taking their daughter, Mary Elizabeth, with them. She later married John A. Tooke, who died in 1858.

Turner Buckner (named for his mother's family, she being the daughter of Turner and Mary Morehead) is revealed by Dr. Stickles as a boy much devoted to his younger brother, Simon. Turner seemed to enjoy all the environs of the farm and home, yet when Simon was at West Point, Turner wanted to see him; whereupon, he left Greenville, Kentucky and WALKED to West Point. He said "he wanted to see the country", and we are told that he was overwhelmed by the sights. A journal of this trip would be indeed, a delight to read.

Turner was also to have a taste of the westward movement...he journeyed to California during the gold rush days, and at the early age of 34, lost his life at Fort Smith, Arkansas. One of his men, driving a herd of cattle in the river, when it was at flood-stage, lost his balance and was taken under by the swift waters. Turner was a powerful swimmer and tried to rescue the man, losing his own life in the attempt in the treacher-

Buckner 12

ous water. For a long time the Buckner family did not know where Turner was buried. Finally they were advised by telegraph. His mother grieved for her son until her death in 1862. The father, Aylett Hartswell, had died in Arkansas also, in 1852, at their Beechland Plantation near Mt. Holly, Arkansas.

Simon Bolivar Buckner attended schools in Kentucky; he received an appointment to West Point and for the first time in his life headed East, traveling by stage-coach and boat. Dr. Stickles tells us that Buckner was aroused, impressed and excited with all the hustle and bustle and growth of the towns and cities.

Physically strong, he excelled in all sports but particularly in gymnastics and it is related that when Buckner wanted to go to New York City - a distance of about 50 miles - he just "strolled over" (and back)! He usually stopped at Tarrytown, about mid-way, and the people there became accustomed to his "walks & chats," even watching for him to appear on the horizon.

In the letters which he wrote home, he told his father he was "applying himself to his studies." He was in the graduating class of 1844.

He taught at West Point for two years after his graduation. His maps - of excellent detail - hung on the walls of the Academy for many years.

He was engaged in the Mexican War, going in the Winter of 1846 as second lieutenant.

Buckner 13

With General Scott from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, he earned promotion to First Lieutenant, then to Captain, for brave services at Molina del Rey.



Simon Bolivar Buckner, U.S. Army, c. 1850.

Buckner 14

While on duty near New York, Buckner met Mary Kingsbury, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kingsbury. At Old Lyme, Connecticut, they were married on May 2, 1850.

In 1855 he resigned from the Army, and engaged in Chicago for a number of years in the real estate and construction business. His father-in-law was a developer and landowner in the new town of Chicago and owned the properties which became the lots of Chicago's Loop. Henry Kingsbury died. At the outbreak of the War Between the States, in seeking to preserve their properties, Buckner and his wife deeded to Mrs. Buckner's brother, Henry Kingsbury, Jr., all the properties left Mrs. Buckner by her father, with a verbal understanding they would be returned to them after the War. Henry Jr. married when the War begun and was on the Union side. He was killed in battle and his will gave all the property to his wife. A son was born to Mrs. Kingsbury, Jr., and she later remarried. A long Court battle ensued over the properties, and in the settlement, Mrs. Buckner received one-half; two days after the decision, the Chicago fire destroyed practically all the buildings on the lots. Buckner had to start to build it up again and as late as 1888, sold the last piece of property for \$500,000 - a lot for which his father-in-law had paid \$800.00.

A daughter, Lily, was born to the Buckners on March 7, 1858, and her father named the Kentucky homeplace "Glen Lily," in her honor.

Buckner 15

An infant son born to the Buckners during the War, died and Dr. Stickles relates a moving story of their difficulty in securing a pass entitling Mrs. Buckner to go through enemy lines to take her little son to the place of burial.

Even though he had resigned from the Army, Buckner now returned to Kentucky and as the war clouds began to gather, was in Command of the Kentucky State Guard in 1861, referred to as the "Buckner Guard."

Kentucky declared neutrality but throughout the state it was becoming more evident each day that the on-coming conflict would involve all the citizens of the State, whether their sympathies lay with the North or the South. There was much political upheaval, bitter controversy and grave forboding from one end of Kentucky to the other.

President Lincoln tempted Buckner by offering him the commission of Brigadier-General in the Union army and this "invitation" was reproduced in Dr. Stickles' book; however, the Sage of Glen Lily loved his Kentucky soil and home and he chose the Confederacy and served throughout the War Between the States. His official transcript is appended hereto, as Appendix A.

At Fort Donelson (Stewart County, Dover, Tennessee) he was to surrender his forces to Grant - his old West Point Classmate, whom he had befriended, financially, in earlier and happier days.

The other two Commanding Generals "left" but Buckner, third in command, remained

Buckner 16

with his men and was taken prisoner. He served his time as war prisoner at Fort Warren, Massachusetts and while there he penned many stanzas and verses which revealed a most gifted side of his nature. Some of his writings were laced with great humor and wit; others, with satire.

The surrender at Fort Donelson was to become and remain a controversial subject. The best account which I have read is James Hamilton's "The Battle of Fort Donelson" in which he gives an almost word-for-word account of events on that Friday, February 14th, Saturday the 15th and Sunday the 16th, 1862.

What happened there? On Friday night it seemed the Confederacy had accomplished its purpose (which Buckner said was to hold the fort until Albert Sydney Johnston got to Nashville); however, the Saturday night conference showed a great difference of opinion among the generals in command - Gideon Pillow, John Floyd, and Buckner.

Believing Johnston was now in Nashville and believing that Federal reinforcements were already arriving, Buckner stated that he could not and would not ask his brave men for another day of battle in the freezing cold and without adequate ammunition and supplies; he would not sacrifice them. Pillow vowed he would NEVER be captured. Floyd sided first with Buckner, then flipped over to Pillow and finally said he was going to leave, regardless.

BUCKNER 17

General Forrest believed the men could be moved out safely on Saturday night; and he scouted the roads and measured the depth of the icy waters they would have to cross - up to their hips. Army doctors were called in to give their opinions and they stated very few of the weary men could survive in the cold weather, freezing water and snow - and pity the poor wounded!

Forrest did successfully escape that night taking many men with him. Today some historians think if Forrest had been in command the surrender at Fort Donelson would never have happened. Others say that the telegraph was working and the three generals "knew or should have known that ammunition was on the way."

We will never know exactly but we know the War Records show that both Floyd and Pillow were relieved of their command after Fort Donelson. With Buckner's decision not to leave his men, we know the capitulation descended upon his shoulders. His statement to Richmond is appended hereto, as Appendix B.

When Grant arrived at the scene, there was complete bedlam. Buckner requested terms of capitulation; this was refused him by Grant, who demanded Unconditional Surrender. This was a bitter dose for Buckner. Grant did give him permission to bury his dead before being taken prisoner and provisions were offered for Buckner's men.

In later years - when asked about Fort Donelson - Buckner said only that he did what he thought was right. He never evaded the subject but pointed to the record

at Richmond which gave the story. His three sentences of Appendix B are eloquent!

His entire life had been spent as a professional soldier and I am confident that his sense of duty and honor steadied him to face the humiliating episode at Fort Donelson. His Division included the 32nd Tennessee Infantry, the 3rd Tennessee, the 14th Mississippi and the elite 2nd Kentucky Regiment. The writer James Hamilton points out that Buckner knew full well the surrender involved the fate of the Confederacy, and incidentally, his own.

After May, 1865, and after he returned to Kentucky from New Orleans (where he lived briefly), Buckner edited the Louisville Courier. He wrote beautifully on the country's issues and during this time the Buckners lived in Louisville.

Mary Kingsbury Buckner's death at Elizabethton in 1874 left Glen Lily without a mistress and Mary Elizabeth Buckner Tooke, Buckner's sister, came there to live. Her husband having died in 1858, she brought with her her two sons. Edwin Arthur Tooke died at Glen Lily, while a young boy. The other son, Aylett Buckner Tooke, went out to Colorado and established himself there and it is not known if he left descendants. Mary Elizabeth died at Glen Lily in 1883.

Lily Buckner, the daughter, married Morris B. Belknap. Four children were born of this union: Gertrude, Walter Kingsbury, Lily and Morris Burke. Lily Buckner Belknap died on December 29, 1893.

BUCKNER 19

On June 10, 1885, Buckner, at age 62, surprised everyone except the members of his own household, when he married Miss Delia Claiborne, of Virginia. She was born in 1857; was a great granddaughter of Robert Lewis (who had served Washington as aide); granddaughter of Maria Dandridge Bassett, a sister of Mrs. George Washington, and she was also closely related to Robert E. Lee. They were married in Virginia, and after a honeymoon trip to the East, they found Glen Lily waiting for the new and young Mrs. Buckner.

We learn that his household people had cleaned and scrubbed Glen Lily from top to bottom. They had even white-washed the inside walls. When Buckner saw this he asked them to please remove the white-wash, to bring back the patina and glow of the log interior.

A son, Simon Bolivar Buckner, Junior, was born at Glen Lily on July 18, 1886. KENTUCKY ANCESTORS publication, Vol. 18, No. 1, July 1982, tells us this child was baptized on October 14, 1888 at the Church of the Ascension in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Buckner was elected Governor of Kentucky in 1887 and served in this office until 1891. His governorship was marked by progress in education and the establishment of a sound financial base from which to operate. Dr. Stickles speaks of his administration as being marked by honesty in every aspect.

After serving as Governor and now being relieved of the pressures of office, he

turned to the organization of Confederate veterans all over the Nation. He enjoyed meeting with them and spearheading their conventions. He was also engaged in the politics of the day, and ran as Vice-Presidential nominee of the United States. Many honors came to him and the Buckners' circle of friends included many distinguished and influential families in America. He and Mrs. Buckner traveled a great deal. In 1900 they took their young son and a nephew to Europe for a tour of the Continent. They also visited Mexico, to show the boy all the scenes of the Mexican War where Buckner had fought under Zachary Taylor. They viewed Contreras, Cherubusco, Molino del Rey and Chapultepec, sites of bloody battles but now only ripple-sounding names. And, too, they saw Mount Popocatepeth, which Buckner had scaled to the top while a soldier in Mexico.

When Buckner was asked about his family's genealogy, Dr. Stickles reports that he replied he was not so much concerned about the past as he was with those immediately around him. Yet, while guests at the White House, President Theodore Roosevelt asked the Buckners "if he could do anything for them." Buckner replied by saying that in every war since America became a country, his family had fought....that his son was a distant relation to George Washington and also related to the family of Mrs. Washington. He asked the President if he would consider giving his son an appointment to West Point. The President did so - at that moment!

So, we see that Buckner was certainly aware of his wife's fine ancestry and he was also aware of his AYLETT ancestry because while all the Aylett girls were busy

BUCKNER 21

marrying into the Buckner family-in their generation - their brother, William Aylett of Mattapony had married Anne Ashton and it was their daughter, Anne Aylett, who married Augustine Washington (called "Austin" by his family), half-brother to George Washington. Also, their nephew, John Aylett, son of their brother Philip (and wife, Martha Dandridge Aylett) had married Elizabeth Dandridge, youngest sister of Mrs. Washington. John Aylett, a lawyer, however, died at an early age of 30, in 1777. Two small children from his marriage also died and Aylett's widow remarried, to Leonard Henley.

Dr. Stickles relates a very human incident. When Aylett Hartswell Buckner, the father, moved out to Arkansas, he took - among other negro families - one family which included a young boy who had been a playmate of Simon. They were near the same age and together they had worked and played, fished, and swam the Green River and enjoyed the long-ago carefree pleasures of their childhood.

As they were both getting up in years, a letter came from Arkansas, with the old friend saying that "more than anything, he wished he could see - one more time - Glen Lily and his old friend." Immediately General and Mrs. Buckner made all the arrangements for him to come and visit. While he was there, they engaged a photographer and the two men posed together for a picture. When it was developed, it was sent on to Arkansas. The old friend received it, wrote his thanks to the General, and added, "I still thinks I's the best-looking."



GEN. BUCKNER AND SHELburn WERE REARED TOGETHER.

Returning now to Glen Lily and down the "home stretch" - those retirement years - Dr. Stickles gives us a picture of peace and dignity in the person of Simon B. Buckner.

He had outlived all the other Confederate Generals and most of the old veterans. As Grant lay dying in up-state New York during the summer of 1885, Buckner and his new bride were on their honeymoon trip, and they called on him. Some historians say that Buckner's surrender at Fort

BUCKNER 23

Donelson made an instant hero of Ulysses Grant during the War; but now the ex-President was in dire straits. He was practically penniless, having made bad investments, and was dying of throat cancer. He could not speak but could write on a note-pad. Their lives had run a parallel course and perhaps Grant was remembering that on surrendering Fort Donelson, Buckner had bowed to him and with a forced smile, said, "General, as they say in Mexico, this house and all it contains is yours." But the days of West Point were gone - the days of the Mexican War would never return - and Fort Donelson's surrender has passed into history. This visit was farewell time, and they both knew it. Buckner served as one of the pallbearers at Grant's funeral.

Buckner had aided through the years, many old soldiers and their families. He had never asked for any repayment of the money. A Friend to all his neighbors, he installed a water system on his farm which ran to all the people of Munfordville.

With his old corn-cob pipe and his good tobacco, he is pictured "amongst his books and papers," comfortably and neatly dressed, always well groomed and keeping abreast of the world's events. He made the corn-cob pipes and oftentimes gave one to visitors departing from Glen Lily.

He enjoyed excellent health and kept his body fit; his carriage was still erect, befitting a soldier. When he was in his 80's, he underwent eye surgery, which was successful.

It was here at Glen Lily that he was born; at this spot he had been cradled and nurtured and even though he had ascended to "high places," he always came back to the rustic home which he loved. Now he was here to stay, and so, he passed his quiet days and what memories were there for him - of his beloved parents; the farm lands and flowers; his brother and sister; his sister's children; his wife Mary and his daughter, Lily; his faithful household and farm people; all the friends and neighbors and the countless kin; Delia, his second wife, and the son who would carry his name and live up to the soldier tradition of the family.

Whose voice did he hear as he sat on the sunlit veranda, watching the seasons change? Whose shadow moved out there in the hushed twilight? Was it only the wind that rustled the dying leaves? Surely, Glen Lily was a hallowed spot to him!

When the Twentieth Century arrived, there was a whole new generation of people interested in the tragic conflict which had torn the very fiber of America. Historians and writers were busy with their documentations; battlefields were being visited and monuments erected; the tactics and strategy of the campaigns were being taken apart, studied, criticized and evaluated.

Who would speak for the Confederacy now? We know the answer.

Unknown visitors arriving from the outside world came knocking at the door of Glen Lily. After marveling at the simplistic

Buckner 25

beauty, they desired an audience with the General. Mrs. Buckner and the General dispensed to them the peculiar style of hospitality they so unstintingly bestowed upon everyone.

He graciously shared his knowledge and his records and we can be sure many visitors were astounded to find this venerable and honorable man still in possession of a keen and disciplined mind.

Dr. Stickle's book also gives us another trait in the character of Buckner - he was a man of modesty. How refreshing!

The Death of Buckner

With long life will I
satisfy him..Psalm 91:16

During December of 1913, he developed some general weakness, but he was making plans for the new year, 1914. He was sick for only two days before his death on January 8, 1914. His life had spanned almost a century - 91 years.

When the Angel of Death came to Glen Lily and beckoned to Simon Bolivar Buckner, he was surrounded by those whom he loved, his wife and son.

It was at Mrs. Buckner's request that his body lay - on his last day at Glen Lily - in the very room where he had been born, and which room later was his library.

His body was taken to Frankfort where tribute and homage was paid this native son of Kentucky by its citizens. In the cemetery near the river where Daniel and Rebecca Boone are resting, General Buckner was buried.

When Mrs. Buckner sold Glen Lily after the General's death, the original 3000 acres were greatly reduced in size. She moved to Louisville and lived there until her death on March 3, 1932. She had suffered a fall in her home, with pneumonia setting in. She is buried beside her husband.

Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., a graduate of West Point in 1908 served as Military Aide to President Woodrow Wilson; was Commandant at West Point from 1933 to 1936. Later he was at Maxwell Field, Alabama. In 1916 he married Miss Adele Blanc of Louisville and three children were born to this union. He was Commander of the Tenth Army in World War II and was killed in the Pacific area in June, 1945, the highest ranking American officer killed in World War II.

To realize that I have lived 66 years of my life before becoming acquainted with Simon Bolivar Buckner - a la history - saddens me. As I near 68, I find that for more than three years I have been looking for and studying any and all material I can find on him. He was living when I was born - in 1913. It was through a genealogy study of my family - the Hawes family - that I found our Aylett ancestry is the connecting link.

Buckner 27

RICHARD HAWES (my gr. gr. grandfather, 1772-1829) who married Clary Walker (daughter of Hugh Walker and Catherine Montague), born in 1776 and who died in 1848, descended from ANNE AYLETT WALKER (wife of Benjamin Walker who died in September 1738.) Simon B. Buckner descended from Anne Aylett Walker's sister, JANE AYLETT (Robinson), who married, secondly, PHILIP BUCKNER.

Richard and Clary Hawes were married in the year 1792. They came to Kentucky from Virginia about 1810, settling their home permanently in 1818 at Yelvington, Daviess County, Kentucky, 8 miles east of Owensboro.

They were the parents of twelve children and only one, a young daughter named for her mother, died. Their eight sons were all well educated, several becoming doctors and lawyers. Two of them served in Congress. All of their children made good marriages and a listing of the families into which they married reads like a historical profile of early Kentucky - the Taylors - the Nicholas family - the Coleman family - the Brights - the Trotter family - the Churchill family - and some marrying their first cousins in Virginia, continuing the "double cousin" routine which was mentioned earlier.

When Richard Hawes died in 1829 his estate gave assurance to the widow and children that they could live out their lives free of financial worries. He had coal mines in Kentucky; and given the land where the town of Hawesville, Kentucky was built, on the Ohio River. At least one of his sons was involved in this coal business.

My grandfather, Edwin Combe Hawes, was born in Hawesville in 1856. He was the only surviving son of his parents, William Franklin Hawes and wife, Aurelia Josephine Combe Hawes. William Franklin, called "Webe", was the youngest child and the 8th son of RICHARD and CLARY HAWES.

Building first a log cabin in what was then practically a wilderness, Richard Hawes erected later, a large and handsome 2-story brick home, situated atop a hill overlooking Kingfisher Lake, in the tiny village of Yelvington, Ky. The house has burned but lying easterly of the foundation site (still plainly visible) is the privately-deeded Hawes Family Cemetery which Richard and Clary established for their family. Their graves carry the Registration Numbers, One and Two, and resting side by side, they are surrounded by their descendants and close kin. Some of their Virginia family members were brought to this spot. There are also the graves of many babies and small children, resting near their parents' graves, including four little boys, all brothers of my grandfather, who died at the age of six or seven months. They carried the beautifully characteristic family names - Aylett, Albert, Charles, and Samuel; and a little girl, Aurelia. This cemetery has been maintained for many years by Colonel Benjamin Walker Hawes, U. S. A., Retired, who lives in nearby Owensboro. Each descending member of the Richard Hawes family is entitled to burial there - if such is their choice - which their ancestor has provisioned for them "Forever," as the deed reads. It is a beautiful spot - very "Kentucky." The visitor

BUCKNER 29

standing ankle-deep in vinca minor, must stretch his neck to view the top of the ancient trees bordering the cemetery on three sides.

I did not become impressed with Buckner because he was "rich and good-looking", though, in actuality, he was both of these, I think. It is because his life reveals a strong and beautiful character.

As the family charts show, there are literally hundreds and hundreds of "cousins" in varying degrees, embracing many families of Kentucky and elsewhere. I beg to join this large group of present-day people who revere the memory of Buckner, and who point with pride to this man who served his State, his Country, his Family, and his Friends in full generosity.

Our libraries are rich with history. While reading the biography of Bishop General Leonidas Polk, C.S.A. (Southern Biography Series by Parks), I found that on one occasion when Buckner was a guest at "Ashwood," the Polk home near Columbia, Tennessee, the Bishop-General gifted him "with a fine horse." Since Polk would be killed in the yet-to-be Battle of Chickamauga (actually at Pine Mountain, Ga., on June 14, 1864), we can be assured our Kentucky friend cherished this token of friendship.

The road to Columbia is now called Columbia Avenue. That is the only way Buckner could get to Columbia from either Nashville or Franklin. It is only three houses from my home in Franklin -- I can see it from my doorway. It is very pro-

bable that he was here many times because he lived in Nashville for about a year and was friend to Lt. Colonel Randall W. McGavock, of Nashville, who was at Fort Donelson with Buckner and who later lost his life in Mississippi.

It is rewarding for me to realize that Buckner passed so very near the spot where I sit tonight, studying his life, reflecting on the character of the man and preparing this look-back vignette.

Simon Bolivar Buckner has greatly enriched my life!

(Glen Lily burned to the ground in 1961 having been unoccupied for fifteen years.)



HISTORIC HOUSE AT GLEN LILY.

BUCKNER 31

APPENDIX A

From: The Confederate Soldier in the Civil War, edited by Ben La Bree, Prentice Press, Louisville 1897

SIMON BOLIVAR BUCKNER Kentucky

Brig. General P. A. C. S. 9-14-1861

Major General P. A. C. S. 8-16-1862

Lieutenant General P. A. C. S. 9-20-1864

Commands:

Commanding Central Division of Kentucky,
Department #2 9-15-1861

Commanding Division at Bowling Green and
subsequently at Donelson, Tennessee

Commanding Corps composed of the Division
of Major-General A. P. Stewart, the
Brigades of Brig. Generals B. R. Johnson,
John C. Brown, W. B. Bate, H. D. Clayton
and the Division of Brig. General William
Preston, consisting of the Brigades of
Brig. Generals Gracie, Trigg and Kelly
and three Battalions of Artillery.

Commanding Department of East Tennessee
7-20-1863 to 4-12-1864.

Commanding District of West Louisiana,
Trans-Mississippi Department 8-4-1864

Commanding District of Arkansas and West
Louisiana, Trans-Mississippi Department
4-19-1865

May 9th, announced as chief of staff to
General E. K. Smith in addition.

APPENDIX B

Buckner's statement in his report to Richmond regarding Donelson, Tennessee.

From: The Confederate Soldier in the Civil War, edited by Ben La Bree. (Prentice Press) Louisville 1897

"It is a question for every officer to decide for himself and that, in my case, I regarded the main duty to remain with my men and share their fate, whatever it may be.

I do not seek to avoid my responsibility which in the judgment of the President may attach to my action, which was guided in every instance by the feeling of duty. My chief question is that he will find it consistent with the public interest to permit me still to unite my fortunes in the contest for independence with those of the brave men whose gallantry I have witnessed, whose dangers and hardships I have shared and in common with whom I have endured the privations of impoverishment among a vindictive and tyrannical foe."

/s/ S. B. Buckner
Brig.-General, C.S.A.

Commanding Second
Division
Central Army of
Kentucky

longer. General Buckner, who was third in rank in the garrison but much the most capable soldier seems to have regarded it a duty to hold the fort until the general commanding the department A. S. Johnston, should get back to his headquarters at Nashville. Buckner's report shows, however, that he considered Donelson lost and that any attempt to hold the place longer would be at the sacrifice of the command. Being assured that Johnston was already in Nashville, Buckner too agreed that surrender was the proper thing. Floyd turned over the command to Pillow, who declined it. It then devolved upon Buckner, who accepted the responsibility of the position. Floyd and Pillow took possession of all the river transports at Dover and before morning both were on their way to Nashville, with the brigade formerly commanded by Floyd and some other troops, in all about 3,000. Some marched up the east bank of the Cumberland; others went on the steamers. During the night Forrest also, with his cavalry and some other troops, about a thousand in all, made their way out, passing between our right and the river. They had to ford or swim over the back-water in the little creek just south of Dover.

Before daylight General Smith brought to me the following letter from General Buckner :

HEADQUARTERS, FORT DONELSON,

February 16, 1862.

SIR :—In consideration of all the circumstances governing the present situation of affairs at this station, I propose to the Commanding Officer of the Federal forces the appointment of Commissioners to agree upon terms of capitulation of the forces and fort under my command, and in that view suggest an armistice until 12 o'clock to-day.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your ob't se'v't,

S. B. BUCKNER,

Brig. Gen. C. S. A.

To Brigadier-General U. S. GRANT,

Com'ding U. S. Forces.

Near Fort Donelson.

To this I responded as follows :

HEADQUARTERS ARMY IN THE FIELD,

Camp near Donelson,

February 16, 1862.

General S. B. BUCKNER,

Confederate Army.

SIR :—Yours of this date, proposing armistice and appointment of Commissioners to settle terms of capitulation, is just received. No terms except an unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move immediately upon your works.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your ob't se'v't,

U. S. GRANT,

Brig. Gen.

To this I received the following reply :

To Brig. Gen. M. S. Grant, U.S. Army.

Sir, The ~~condition~~ distribution
of the forces under my command, incident
to an unexpected change of Commanders, and
the overwhelming force under your command,
compel me notwithstanding the brilliant
success of the Confederate arms yesterday, to ³⁰
accept the ungenerous and unchivalrous
terms which you propose.

I am, Sir,

Yours very obt. servt.

Head Quarters, Dover, Tenn,

Feby. 16. 1862.

J. B. Buckner.

Brig. Gen. Ch. S.

BUCKNER 35

From: KENTUCKY CAVALIERS IN DIXIE, by
George Dallas Mosgrove.

The Reminiscences of a Confederate
Cavalryman. Published in Louisville, Ky.
in 1895. Reprinted in 1957.

Mosgrove was a company clerk serving at
Regimental Headquarters.

GENERAL SIMON B. BUCKNER

This most accomplished officer, the hero
of the battle of Fort Donelson, was the
immediate predecessor of Genl. John H.
Morgan in command of the troops in south-
western Virginia and east Tennessee.

General Buckner's review of the troops, an
imposing array of infantry, cavalry, and
artillery, massed at Bull's Gap, I shall
never forget.

Sitting upon a noble charger, showily ca-
parisoned, General Buckner appeared the
model soldier. I never saw a more grace-
ful figure on horseback. Erect and hand-
some, the general sat his horse and held
the reins exactly as prescribed by cavalry
tactics and army regulations. The stately
elegantly attired general and the regiments
and battalions, with burnished guns and
gleaming sabers, passing in review before
him made up a most attractive pageant.
The bands played inspiring airs, among
them the "Southern Marseillaise", and the
general gracefully returned the salutes of
the marching divisions.

Upon leaving the Department for other
fields, General Buckner addressed the
following letter to his successor, Gen-
eral Morgan.

BUCKNER 37

Headquarters Department East Tenn.
Abingdon, Va., May 2, 1864

General: I have been ordered to distant service, and have relinquished the command of this department. I can not part from my gallant compatriots from Kentucky without expressing through you my regrets at the separation. Assure them that wherever I may be, I will watch their career with the deepest interest.

Though exiled for a time from a land which is so dear to us we should not lose sight of the fact that in whatever part of the Confederacy we may be called upon to serve every blow which is struck tends to strike off the fetters which bind our fair land to Northern tyranny.

The day will surely come when those of the gallant band who may survive the coming campaign will look upon our beloved State enfranchised and happy.

Say to your troops that I have taken steps which will, I hope, very soon supply them with the equipments necessary to their efficiency and comfort. I look to them to furnish an example of discipline, as well as of gallantry, under whatever officers they may be called upon to obey; for obedience to our officers is a duty we all owe to our country, to our cause, to our State and to those cherished ones for whose freedom and happiness we are contending.

For yourself, general, and for the gallant men under your command, receive the assurances of the regard of,

Your friend truly,
S. B. Buckner, Major-General

Brigadier-General, John H. Morgan
Commanding Kentucky Cavalry

BUCKNER 38

From: Historic Kentucky, by J. Winston Coleman, Jr. (1968, Henry Clay Press, Lexington)

GLEN LILY

Hart county - about seven miles east of Munfordville, the county seat and 2 miles off Ky 357, stood this 2-story log house. It was built in 1819-1822 by Col. Aylett Hartswell Buckner, who came to Kentucky with his parents from Virginia in 1803 at the age of ten.

After his marriage to Elizabeth Ann Morehead, he settled on a 3,000 acre tract of virgin forests where he began the construction of his hand-hewn log house of ten rooms. Colonel Buckner was interested in iron ore and his desire to become an iron-master had much to do with his selection of this farm site in such rustic surroundings. He established the Henry Clay Iron Furnace in the early 1820s but in 1837 it went out of blast, due to a shortage of timber for charcoal. At Glen Lily, on April 1, 1823, was born the third child of Colonel and Mrs. Buckner - Simon Boliver Buckner, named for the South American patriot and statesman.

Young Buckner graduated from West Point, served in the Mexican War and as a General in the Confederate Army. Later he served as Governor of Kentucky (1887-1891). In 1896 Gov. Buckner was nominated for the vice-presidency of the United States.

BUCKNER 39

From: Kentucky, Yesterday and Today, by
Ruby Dell Baugher and Sarah Hendricks
Claypool. (Kincaid Publishing House,
1964)

p. 267

"After the Civil War was over, along with the changes being made, all thinking people knew the Third Constitution should be changed. General Simon Bolivar Buckner had been elected Governor. He was Kentucky's Governor at the time of the adoption of the Fourth Constitution. He fought in nearly every battle of the Mexican War and was on the Confederate side in the Civil War. After the war he was denied the right to return to Kentucky. When he was permitted to come back home to his native state, he was elected governor.

"At the end of his term the Courier Journal called him "A Governor who is the ablest and most popular in the history of this state." Outside Kentucky, he is remembered more for his services in battle than for his four years as Governor. And Dr. Stickles, in his book, Simon Bolivar Buckner, says, "he belongs to the rapidly disappearing type of Southern gentleman - courteous to the extreme, chivalrous as an olden knight, dashing as a courtier, cordial without hesitation, gallant as a crusader."

p. 230 - A. M. Stickles

"President Lincoln asked the Secretary of War to make out a commission to Simon Bolivar Buckner as Brigadier-General of Kentucky and to send it to General Robert Anderson 'to be given to General Buckner at the Discretion of General Anderson. General Buckner was a Confederate. If General Anderson had given him the commission, we do not know if Gen.

Buckner would have accepted it. But it does show the good will, the 'malice toward none' in President Lincoln to make the offer."

"Kentucky - A Guide to the Bluegrass State" (Federal Works Agency, WPA, 1939. Hastings House Publishing, Inc.)

BONNIEVILLE - Tour 7 -

Bonnieville consists of a few old frame houses, on whose porches are displayed the split white oak, hickory and willow baskets often found on sale in the south.Near Munfordville, Negroes are seen strolling up or down the road. They live in the raffish cabins and box-like houses near the highway. At 82 m. is the junction with an unimproved road.

Left on this road to Glen Lily (visitors welcome) 9 m., the birthplace of Simon Bolivar Buckner (1823-1914) standing solitary in the woods alongside Green River. The crude 2-story rectangular house is of hewn logs, with a tin roof and a narrow gallery extending along three sides. The front facade is broken at the center by a clapboarded section - probably a closed-in breezeway, or dog-trot. It stands on what was formerly a farm of 1,000 acres. Nearby on the riverbank are the moss-covered ruins of the old Iron Foundry built by Gen. Buckner's father in 1823. For two years after his graduation from West Point - in 1844 - Simon Bolivar Buckner served as an instructor at the institution.

He resigned to take part in the Mexican War; when the War Between the States broke out he was made commander of the Kentucky Militia and soon espoused the Confederate

BUCKNER 41

cause, rising to the rank of lieutenant general. After the Battle of Fort Donelson, he surrendered to General Grant, who had been his friend for many years before the war.

During Grant's last illness Gen. Buckner visited him, and he was a pallbearer at Grant's funeral. Buckner was Governor of Kentucky 1887-1891 and a candidate for the vice-presidency in 1896.

Munfordville is the county seat of Hart County.

"Kentucky - A Guide to the Bluegrass State"
Tour 16

Brandenburg, seat of Meade County

Right from town on a graveled street to the BUCKNER HOMESTEAD (open), on a hillside that commands a view of the Ohio for 15 miles. The one story frame house was built in 1855 by COL. ROBERT BUCKNER, a soldier of the War of 1812, a son of MARY HAWES Buckner.

The facade is broken by four 20-pane windows and a very wide doorway with side lights and a transom. In the roof above the doorway is a small gable with a large fanlight.

The house is noteworthy for its hand-carved mantels, hand-grooved weatherboarding and in its main hall, a winding staircase of the quarter-turn spiral type.

For a time, during the War Between the States, Gen. John Hunt Morgan had his headquarters in this house. This point was admirable as a lookout, and served as a base for Morgan's operations across the river. Cannon stationed on the hillside commanded Marvin's Landing on the Indiana bank and afforded protection to troops while crossing there.

BUCKNER 42

XALAPA - estate of Edward Francis Simms,
breeder of thoroughbreds.

A stone wall, extending along the highway for 2 miles, surrounds the place and a wide gateway gives access to miles of driveways bordered with dogwood, hawthorn oaks, maples, lilacs and evergreens. The 1-1/2 story brick residence is covered with Virginia creeper; the front facade has four large windows. Circular steps with old boxwood on each side lead to the small circular portico, which has slender columns and an ironwork balustrade. The paneled doorway has a delicately leaded fan transom and side lights, and there is a handsome Palladian window in the front gable. A reproduction of an old stone mill contains an immense recreation room, a ballroom, a guest room, a bath, and a kitchen. The windows overlook Stoner Creek, which winds through the estate.

The house was built in 1827-28 by WILLIAM THOMAS BUCKNER, who came from Virginia in 1820. Henry Buckner, a son, inherited the estate of 880 acres, and after his return from service in the Mexican War, named it XALAPA in memory of the little Mexican town that the Spaniards called the "Happy Land."

The estate was purchased by the father of Edward Francis Simms, who, after he inherited it, increased the acreage of 2,700.

(located near N. Middleton)

William Thomas Buckner was the son of Elizabeth Hawes Buckner.

Bibliography

BUCKNER 43

- Simon Bolivar Buckner, The Borderland Knight,
by Dr. A. M. Stickles.
- The Hawes Family of Caroline County, Virginia,
compiled by Elizabeth Hawes Ryland. 1947.
- Editorial in the CONFEDERATE VETERAN, Apr.
1914.
- The Confederate Soldier in the Civil War,
edited by Ben La Bree (Prentice Press,
Louisville, 1897)
- Personal Memories of U. S. Grant - Surrender
of the Fort.
- Kentucky Cavaliers in Dixie, by George Dallas
Mosgrove. (1895) Reprinted 1957.
- Historic Kentucky, by J. Winston Coleman, Jr.
Henry Clay Press, 1968.
- Kentucky, Yesterday and Today, by Ruby Dell
Baughner and Sarah Hendricks Claypool.
(Kincaid Publishing House, 1964)
- Kentucky, a Guide to the Bluegrass State
(Federal Works Agency, WPA, 1939, Hastings
House Publications, Inc.
- The Buckners of Virginia, by William Crozier
- The Battle of Fort Donelson, by James Hamilton

Buckner, William 'Bill'

BUCKNER 44

April 28, 2009



BUCKNER

William G. "Bill" Buckner - Mr. Bill Buckner, 56, of Pascagoula, MS passed away April 24, 2009. He was born October 12, 1952, in Lambert, MS and was preceded in death by his father, Mr. Royce B. Buckner, his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Stone and Mrs. Exie Buckner. Bill is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Alesia (Lisa) Shepherd Buckner, his mother, Annie Dee Buckner, one sister, Janice (Bobby) Cauthen, his three beautiful daughters, Amy Johnson, Allison (Derek) Erickson, and Carrie (Aaron) Gautier, his step children, Shelly Dugan, Brad Miller, and Michael (Ashlie) Bradshaw, the lights of his life, his 14 grandchildren, Katelyn Winstead, Reid Erickson, McKenna, Drew and Karly Johnson, Gage Dugan, Briana Brewer, Meaghan Wall, Lex, Nevaeh, Alyssa, Landon Bradshaw, Patience and Bradford Miller, his in-laws, J O "Sonny" and Carolyn Shepherd, many friends and other relatives. Bill was a 1970 graduate of Cleveland High School and a 1974 graduate of Delta State University both in Cleveland, MS. He moved to Pascagoula in 1976 and was employed as a Vice President of Citizens National Bank/SouthTrust Bank for 31 years before going to work for Merchants and Marine Bank in 2008. Bill was a member of First Baptist Church, Pascagoula, MS. Visitation will be 9:00 to 11:00 am, Tuesday, April 28, 2009, followed by the funeral at 11:00 am at First Baptist Church, Pascagoula, MS with Dennis Ray Smith officiating. Pallbearers will be Aaron Gautier, Derek Erickson, Brad Miller, Michael Bradshaw, Timmy Shepherd, Donald Shepherd, Steven Scrivner,

Bobby Cauthen. Honorary Pallbearers will be Fellow Officers of Merchants and Marine Bank. Interment will be at Jackson County Memorial Park in Pascagoula. A benefit fund for William G. Buckner has been established at Merchants and Marine Bank. All arrangements by Heritage Funeral Home, in Escatawpa, MS, locally owned and operated, you may view and sign an online register book for Bill at www.heritagefuneralhome.us. Due to an error in Monday's obituary, floral arrangements will be accepted by Mr. Buckner's family, a benefit fund has been established at Merchants and Marine Bank. Heritage Funeral Home regrets any inconvenience this may have caused.